COMMANDERS DIGEST

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE • WASHINGTON, D.C.

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President Recommends A Modified ABM System

President Nixon has recommended that a modified Sentinel anti-ballistic missile system be deployed at selected sites in the U.S.—a program he said was based on "a careful assessment of the developing Soviet and Chinese threat."

The initial sites proposed for the system are Malmstrom AFB, Mont., and Grand Forks AFB, N. D.

President Nixon told newsmen Mar. 14 that he had weighed all the factors involved and that he was recommending "a minimum program essential for our security."

He said the "measured deployment" was designed to fulfill three objectives:

1. Protection of our land-based retaliatory forces against a direct attack by the Soviet Union.

2. Defense of the American people against the kind of nuclear attack which Communist China is likely to be able to mount within the decade.

3. Protection against the possibility of accidental attacks from any source.

Soon after the President's announcement, Deputy Secretary of Defense David Packard discussed the Sentinel ABM system with newsmen at the Pentagon and told how top Defense officials had "examined thoroughly the ballistic missile defense issues. He added:

"We have examined the needs for such a defense, the objectives of the program, the technical feasibility and the various alternatives available.

"After this extensive review," Mr. Packard continued, "we forwarded our conclusion and recommendations to the President." He said these views on the subject could be summarized as follows:

1. We have not recommended de-

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Marines Get New Assault Combat Copter

A new assault helicopter which can transport 38 fully-equipped combat troops more than 100 miles and return without refueling has been delivered to the Marine Corps.

The first of the new CH-53D aircraft, built by Sikorsky, was delivered to the Marine Corps March 3 at the Bridgeport, Conn., plant.

The helicopter is an improved model of the CH-53A series which was introduced in Vietnam by the Marine Corps in late 1966. The Marine Corps said as soon as a full squadron of the new aircraft is completed, they will go through a complete training program and then probably deploy to Vietnam.

During the demonstration flight, the CH-53D lifted a 19,000 pound weight while carrying a full 4,000 pound fuel load. It has a combined lift-weight of more than 50,000 pounds.

The Marine Corps says, despite its size, the CH-53D can out-maneuver a much smaller aircraft. During the demonstration flight, it accomplished a series of loops and a complete rolling maneuver.

It has a cruising speed of 170 knots, but has reached 200 knots during level flight. It has a vertical lift speed of 3,500 feet per minute.

Maj. Gen. K. B. McCutcheon, Deputy Chief of Staff (Air), Headquarters, Marine Corps, accepted the first CH-53D from Sikorsky Aircraft Division.

Deputy Secretary Packard

Navy to Get Tankers

The Navy's Military Sea Transportation Service has signed a charter-build agreement with the Central Gulf Steamship Company of New Orleans for nine new tankers to replace 16 now in service.

Under the charter-build system, the tankers will be built by the company and then be chartered to the Navy for five years. The Navy will have the option of extending the charters up to 25 years.

Each tanker will be 595 feet long, have a 32-foot, 6-inch draft and displace 32,000 tons. The ships will have a 12,000 mile steaming radius at 16 knots and will be conventionally powered.

The vessels will be built for Central Gulf by the Bethlehem Steel Company Shipyard at Sparrows Point, Md., at a cost to Central Gulf of $115 million. The nine tankers are to be in service with MSTS within three years.

CIRCULATION COPY 2

President Recommends A Modified ABM System

(Continued from Page 1)

ployment of a defense of major cities against a massive attack, the kind the Soviets could launch, because it would not materially increase our security. We must deter such attacks with our retaliatory forces.

2. Projection against ballistic missiles can and should be made available to our land-based nuclear-war deterrent forces. Such added protection will help insure the survival of the American deterrent forces in the face of the still growing Soviet threat. We recommended that an ABM system be configured so that extra protection and warning will be given to missiles, bombers, and the national control center as the threat develops.

3. The people of our country can be protected effectively from a small missile attack, the kind the Chinese Communists will probably be able to launch sometime in the 1970s. We judge such a defense to be a prudent and practicable measure and recommended that it be deployed as the threat develops.

4. Locating sites away from major cities should make clear to the Soviet Union that the American defense is designed to preserve our deterrent—not to change the strategic balance. We recommended that the sites for ABM radars and missiles be determined by the needs of the defense and that they be moved away from cities to the extent practical. (Note: Washington, D. C. was the only city proposed to get the Sentinel.)

5. A careful review of existing ballistic missile defense components convinces us that the program is sound and feasible technically. We so informed the President.

6. A phased installation of a ballistic missile defense will provide the option to meet the threats as they materialize. We recommended a specific deployment plan to meet this objective.

7. Such a deployment plan would provide for early shake-down of integrated operational components and offer the most economical deployment.

8. A decision to deploy such a defense and the pacing of the deployment is fully consistent with our national objective of meaningful agreements with the Soviet Union on the limitation of strategic offensive and defensive systems.

9. A rigorous research and development effort is needed to seek better ways to defend against enemy missiles. We recommend that these efforts be continued.

Mr. Packard said the Defense Department sent the President its analysis of four basic possible resolutions of the ballistic missile defense issue, and listed the options as:

1. A heavy defense designed to protect major cities against a massive attack.

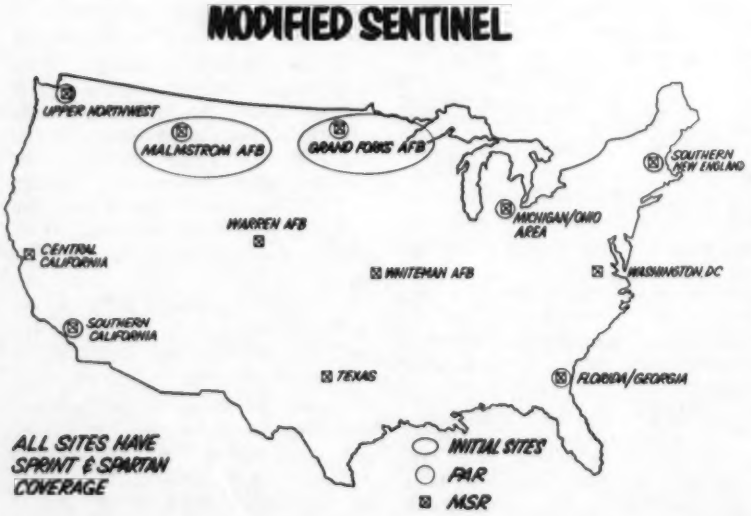
2. The existing Sentinel.

3. Modifications of Sentinel that would improve planned protection of our deterrent forces as the threat materializes, protect our population against a small attack, and demonstrate clearly that we are not attempting a heavy defense of our cities.

4. Cancellation of Sentinel, continuing only research and development but with no real option to deploy a defense in the next two or three years, regardless of how the threat may develop.

The Deputy Secretary of Defense pointed out how the President rerected a heavy city defense, rejected the option of no defense and approved the phased protection of our land-based forces and the light, overall protection of the population.

Mr. Packard said "the net effect of the new decisions is to establish a modified Sentinel program which will enhance our ability to deter a massive attack and provide a capability to defend against a small attack . . ."



Cash Awards 'Successful,' Says President

President Nixon reported to Congress March 4 that participation by military personnel in the cash award suggestion program authorized by Congress in 1965 has, "proven successful in motivating military personnel to seek ways of reducing costs and improving efficiency."

He said, "Tangible benefits from suggestions submitted by the Department of Defense and Coast Guard military personnel and adopted during 1968 totalled over $95,000,000, an increase of nearly 50 percent over the 1967 figure.

"In the relatively short period since the program went into effect, tangible first-year benefits derived from the suggestions of military personnel have reached a total of over $214,000,000.

He said that of 241,090 suggestions submitted by military personnel during, 1968, 37,995 were adopted. "Cash awards totalled $1,601,265, of which approximately three-fourths were paid to enlisted personnel at Grade E-6 and below," he reported.

President Nixon mentioned that the cash awards program for military personnel could be justified solely by the net savings which have accrued to the government since the program was initiated.

"But the benefits of this program are greater than dollars saved. An incentive and a vehicle have been provided for suggestions which effect economies and increase efficiency," he said.

"Moreover, military personnel now have the assurance that their ideas will not go unheeded in drab suggestion boxes, but will be carefully screened and considered at the highest policy levels of the government.

"Under the program," the President said, "every man has an opportunity to forward his ideas and be rewarded for his effort.

"It is a good program, a sound and wise investment," he said.

FOURTH STAR—Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, and Mrs. Chesarek pin the fourth star on the shoulders of Gen. Ferdinand J. Chesarek, Commanding General, U. S. Army Materiel Command, Washington, D. C. Gen. Chesarek succeeds Gen. Frank S. Besson Jr., who is now Chairman, Joint Logistic Review Board.

AF Seeks to Improve Meals

An Air Force one-of-a-kind study involving the use of microwave ovens to reconstitute frozen foods is being conducted by an Air Force veterinarian at Minot AFB, N.D.

Col. Robert K. Nelson, SAC veterinarian, planned and directs the project which will utilize microwave energy to reconstitute frozen foods to serving temperatures.

To accomplish this, five microwave ovens have been mounted on existing hot and cold food service carts of the 832nd USAF Hospital at Minot, another microwave oven has been installed on the cafeteria line and still another has been put in the cooking area of the kitchen.

The study, sponsored by SAC and the Air Force Systems Command, is being made for possible use in inflight feeding programs and for possible application at missile sites. The study has been allotted $24,000 in research funds.

Microwaves have an unusual power to penetrate and heat food materials. The energy strikes food placed in the chamber of a microwave oven where the molecules of the food are agitated, creating a rapidly changing field and heating the food.

Advantages of such a system utilizing microwave energy includes increasing the adaptability of frozen foods to hospital feeding systems; greatly reducing heating time; eliminating conventional thermal food storage in hot carts and steam tables; assuring high customer acceptance by providing hot foods instantly at temperature ranges of 150 to 180 degrees; providing maximum variety and a la carte menu selectivity by quick defrost and rapid heating and further minimizing manpower and skill levels required for reconstitution and serving.

One segment of the study will be initiated to heat food on the plate from refrigeration at 40 degrees fahrenheit to serving temperatures at 150 degrees. Approximate heating time is estimated to be 90 to 105 seconds per plate.

The President Reports to the Nation

A NEW LOOK AT U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS

On March 4, following his return from an eight-day tour of Western Europe, President Nixon discussed his trip in a televised news-conference. During this hour-long report to the nation he answered questions on a broad range of foreign policy matters.

A major purpose of the President's trip was to establish "a new relationship of trust and confidence" with Western European leaders prior to a possible East-West summit meeting. Below are excerpts from his statements concerning the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: Mr. President, we got the impression travelling with you that there was some relationship between your tour and a possible East-West summit at some future time. Could you relate the two?

THE PRESIDENT: This tour was a condition precedent to an East-West summit at a later time. I have always indicated that before we had talks with those who have opposed us in the world, it was essential that we had clear understandings with our allies and friends.

In every visit that I had, I discussed East-West relations with the leaders involved, discussed not only what our plans were, and what our policies might be, but got their views and their advice as to what programs they thought we should handle in any bilateral discussions we had with the Soviet Union.

Q: Mr. President, during the trip . . . you spoke of hoping that with greater unity with our allies, you would be able to develop new understanding with those who have opposed us on the other side of the world. . . . Of whom are you speaking, sir? We assume the Russians. . . .

A: . . . In referring to those who oppose us in the world, I was referring primarily to the Soviet Union and to the talks that the United States would be having with the Soviet Union in a number of areas.

Europeans, I found, were greatly concerned by what they called the possibility of a U.S.-Soviet condominium, in which at the highest level the two superpowers would make decisions affecting their future without consulting them.

In fact, one statesman used the term Yalta. He said, "We don't want another Yalta on the part of the United States and the Soviet Union." Whether his assessment on Yalta is correct or not is immaterial. The point is that Europeans are highly sensitive about the United States and the Soviet Union making decisions that affect their future without their consultation. And that will not happen as a result of this trip.

Situation in Berlin

Q: Mr. President, will you assess for us, sir, the situation in West Berlin. . . ?

A: At this moment . . . I believe that the Soviet Union does not want to have the situation in West Berlin heated up to the point that it would jeopardize some, what they consider to be, more important negotiations at the highest level with the United States, and because those negotiations, in effect, are in the wings, I think I could predict that the Soviet Union will use its influence to cool off the West Berlin situation, rather than to heat it up.

Four-Point Talks on the Mideast

Q: Can you tell us whether or not . . . you are now encouraged about prospects for maintaining peaceful conditions in the Middle East?

A: . . . We have had encouraging talks with the Soviet Ambassador . . . with regard to the Middle East. We will continue these bilateral consultations; and if they continue at their present rate of progress, it seems likely that there will be four-power discussions in the United Nations on the Mideast.

Now, I should indicate also the limitations of such discussions and what can come out of them. The four powers —the Soviet Union, the United States, Great Britain and France—cannot dictate a settlement in the Middle East. The time has passed in which great nations can dictate to smaller nations their future in which their vital interests are involved.

The four powers can indicate those areas where they believe the parties directly involved in the Mideast could have profitable discussions. At the present time they are having no discussions at all.

Secondly—and this is even the more important part of it—from the four-power conference can come an absolute essential to any kind of a peaceful settlement in the Mideast, and that is a major-power guarantee of the settlement, because we cannot expect the nation of Israel or the other nations in the area who think their major interests might be involved—we cannot expect them to agree to a settlement unless they think there is a better

chance that it will be guaranteed in the future than has been the case in the past.

Soviet Help on Vietnam

Q: Mr. President, you said in the recent past that you thought the United States might put some pressure, or use the Soviet Union, or seek to enlist the Soviet Union's help in Vietnam. I wonder if since you have become President you have moved in that respect, trying to get them to alleviate the situation or help solve it?

A: As you know, the Soviet Union is in a very delicate and sensitive position as far as Vietnam is concerned. . . . Here you have Communist China aiding North Vietnam. You also have the Soviet Union aiding North Vietnam. Each is vying for power in the Communist world and, therefore, what the Soviet Union does in the Vietnamese conflict is a very difficult decision for them as related to that objective—the objective of leadership in the Communist world.

It is well known that the Soviet Union was helpful in terms of getting the Paris peace talks started, that the Soviet Union was helpful in working out the arrangement for the shape of the table.

I believe at this time the Soviet Union shares the concern of many other nations in the world about the extension of the war in Vietnam . . . They recognize that if it continues over a long period of time, the possibility of escalation increases. And I believe the Soviet Union would like to use what influence it could appropriately to help bring the war to a conclusion. What it can do, however, is something that only the Soviet Union would be able to answer to, and it would probably have to answer privately, not publicly.

Talks with the Soviet Union

Q: Mr. President, we were told during the trip that at the appropriate moment you were prepared to begin negotiations with the Soviet Union on a broad front and that these negotiations would include not only disarmament but other, possibly, political areas. What problems do you think are ripe for discussion with the Soviets?

A: I should first indicate that talks already are going on with the Soviet Union in one sense. The discussions that the Secretary of State and I have had with Ambassador Dobrynin have been substantive and have been talks, in effect, with the Soviet Government, because he had consulted with his own government before he had his talk with me and with the Secretary of State.

The talks on the Mideast would be the first subject in which bilateral as well as multilateral discussions could take place. The possibility, also, of discussions on strategic arms. This is a possibility for the future.

I can see those two areas, and there are others which could develop as well.

Reconciling Moscow's Conflicting Policies

Q: Mr. President, I believe you have said . . . that the Soviet Union is interested in peace in the Middle East. But how can this be reconciled with the fact that they have very quickly rearmed and fully rearmed the Arabs? What evidence do we have, what proof do we have, that the Soviet Union is interested in fact in peace in the Middle East?

A: The Soviet Union's policy in the Mideast and Vietnam . . . is ambivalent.

On the one hand, in Vietnam, they are heating up the war. They furnish 80 percent to 85 percent of the sophisticated military equipment for the North Vietnamese forces. Without that assistance, North Vietnam would not have the capability to wage the major war they are against the United States.

In the Mideast, without what the Soviet Union has done in rearming Israel's neighbors, there would be no crisis there that would require our concern.

On the other hand, at the same time that the Soviet Union has gone forward in providing arms for potential belligerents—potential belligerents in the one area and actual belligerents in the other—the Soviet Union recognizes that if these peripheral areas get out of control, that the result could be a confrontation with the United States. And the Soviet Union does not want a confrontation with the United States, any more than we want one with them, because each of us knows what a confrontation would mean.

I think it is that overwhelming fact, the fact that if the situation in the Mideast and Vietnam is allowed to escalate, it is that fact that it might lead to a confrontation that is giving the Soviet Union second thoughts, and leads me to what I would say [is] the cautious conclusion at this point, that the Soviet Union will play possibly a peace-making role in the Mideast and even possibly in Vietnam.

I say a cautious conclusion because I base this only on talks that have taken place up to this time. But we are going to explore that road all the way we can, because, let's face it, without the Soviet Union's cooperation the Mideast is going to continue to be a terribly dangerous area, if you continue to pour fuel on those fires of hatred that exist on the borders of Israel. And without the Soviet Union's cooperation it may be difficult to move as fast as we would like in settling the war in Vietnam.

Q: Mr. President, some of us have been under the impression that you attached important pre-conditions to summit talks with the Soviets. . . .

A. No . . . What I have, however, clearly indicated, is that I think their interests and ours would not be served by simply going down the road on strategic arms talks without, at the same time, making progress on resolving these political differences that could explode. . . . Our attitude towards the Soviet is not a highhanded one of trying to tell them, "You do this or we won't talk." Our attitude is very conciliatory, and I must say that in our talks with the Soviet Ambassador, I think that they are thinking along this line now, too. If they are, we can make progress on several roads towards a mutual objective.

Computer for Army

The Army will have a new computer command effective March 31.

Called the U.S. Army Computer Systems Command (USACSC), it will be the responsible agency for the design, development, test, installation, programming and system support of the Army's multi-command automatic data processing (ADP) systems.

Making the announcement March 10, the Army noted that the need for such improvement has been generated largely as a result of "the Army's spectacular growth in computer technology programs over the past ten years."

The new command will use the present Automatic Data Field Systems Command (ADFSC) as its nucleus and report directly to the Army Assistant Vice Chief of Staff. The current ADFSC commander, Brig. Gen. Wilson R. Reed, will be the first commanding general of USACSC, with headquarters at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Under the Computer Systems Command's jurisdiction will be almost all the ADP systems that cross command lines in their operation, or which can be used in more than one command.

The command will serve the Army in the field, and also fixed installations at all echelons. The task of the new command, ranging from worldwide administrative systems to worldwide combat support systems, and embracing hardware, software and systems support, represents a broader scope of ADP systems responsibility than has ever before been brought together in a single Army agency, the Army said.

Draft

The Department of Defense has requested 27,600 inductees for the Selective Service System in May. This is the second lowest total this year, January having 26,800.

Of the total called for May, 25,600 will be assigned to the Army, 2,000 to the Marine Corps.

In February, 33,700 were called, March had 33,100 and April 33,000.

NEW ASSIGNMENT—Capt. Howard E. Greer has been assigned as chief of staff to Commander, Naval Air Forces, Pacific Fleet. He was formerly commander of the USS Hancock.

Air Force Approves ROTC for Women

The Air Force has opened its college ROTC program for women who are interested in becoming officers in the Air Force.

Beginning this fall at selected universities, women will be offered the same two-year commissioning program now given for male students.

At first, three universities will have the program but more are expected to be added in the near future. Those already selected are: Ohio State University; Auburn University and East Carolina University.

The coeds must have two years of college remaining at either the undergraduate or graduate level and must attend a six-week training course at an Air Force Base prior to entering the program. Other requirements are to achieve a qualifying score on the Air Force Officers Qualifying Test and meet the physical standards required of a WAF officer.

The women will be entitled to the same benefits afforded male cadets in the two-year program, including a $50 monthly allowance while enrolled in Air Force ROTC.

Army Checking Improved Jeep

A third-generation model of the "Jeep," is currently undergoing rigorous examination by the Army at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., and Fort Knox, Ky., in an effort to provide a safer, more economical and easier-to-maintain vehicle for U.S. military forces throughout the world.

The quarter-ton military truck was dubbed Jeep from its initials of "General Purpose." The current version is designated as the M-151 and includes many improvements which will increase safety, reliability and durability while reducing cost.

Representatives of the U. S. Army Combat Developments Command, headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Va., are on hand at the test sites to insure that "human factors" affecting the soldier in the field are considered in the developmental program.

The new model features an individual wheel suspension system which is unfamiliar to many drivers and handles differently under marginal road conditions from most American cars, CDC says.

The new rear independent suspension greatly improves ride and handling characteristics by reducing the amount of wheel camber deviation when cornering or operating over rough ground.

Other safety features include a new dual brake system, deep-dish steering wheel, and several items to improve driver vision.

The new dual brake system feeds individual hydraulic pressures to the front and rear wheels and reduces the braking effort by the operator.

The deep-dish steering wheel, now standard in most commercial vehicles, provides protection against driver chest injuries in event of head-on collision.

Increased vision is provided by a larger one-piece windshield and back window and an inside rear-view mirror. Two speed electric windshield wipers sweep a greater span of glass.

Improved front and rear lighting systems include parking, stop and black-out lights.

Government Plays Major Role in Oceanographic Policy

Several government agencies and departments are playing a major role in the development of U. S. oceanographic policy. There's one important reason: The world lives too closely to the margin of poverty to be able to neglect to use the resources of more than 70 percent of the earth's surface.

At a Marine Science conference in San Diego, Calif., Feb. 21, Mr. Herman Pollack, director of the Office of International Scientific and Technological Affairs, State Department, cited the following compelling reasons for international agreement and cooperation programs to avoid conflict among nations over ocean resources:

1. Technology is opening up the oceans and the ocean floor for exploitation at a rate unforeseen by earlier generations.

2. Existing international law seems inadequate to order this exploitation. The 1958 Geneva Convention on the Continental Shelf does not establish a clear standard for determining areas subject to coastal state jurisdiction beyond the 200-meter depth.

3. The prospect of great wealth coming from the deep seabed has stimulated international interest in the control of exploitation of the seabed beyond national jurisdiction and the sharing of revenue derived from exploitation.

To resolve these issues, Mr. Pollack observed, two questions must be answered:

1. Where coastal state jurisdiction over the natural resources of the seabeds ends;

2. What sort of international system should govern exploitation of seabed areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

Within the U. S. Government an interagency Committee on International Policy in the Marine Environment has been established to grapple with these and other relevant questions. In addition to scientific, legal and international organization specialists from the State Department, this committee includes experts from the Departments of Defense, Interior, Transportation and Commerce.

The variety of the views expressed within this committee on U.S. interests in the oceans and seabeds reflect the pluralism of the nation's interest as a whole. There also has been a great deal of interaction between the government and private interests in this country, whose needs are an important consideration of the government.

While there appear to be as yet no firm answers on an international approach to the oceans, the United States has suggested some major principles as the basis for an international treaty. In brief, they are:

1. No state may claim or exercise sovereignty rights over any part of the deep ocean floor.

2. There shall be established an internationally agreed precise boundary for the area of the seabed lying beyond national jurisdiction.

3. An internationally agreed system governing exploitation of the resources of the deep ocean floor should be established. This system should provide for: orderly development reflecting the interests of the international community; conditions conducive to investment; dedication, where practicable, of a portion of the value of resources recovered to international community purposes; and accommodation among commercial and other uses.

ALASKAN VISITOR—Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird (right) and Lt. Gen. Robert A. Breitweiser, commander-in-chief, Alaska, visit during 50-minute refueling stop at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. Secretary Laird and his party were en route to Southeast Asia.

Watch For

Commanders Digest

Index Number 2

(in April)

COMMANDERS DIGEST

THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS OFFICIAL INFORMATION, NEWS AND POLICY, DIRECT FROM WASHINGTON AUTHORIZED SOURCES.

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U.S. Position on Attacks Is Made Clear

The President of the United States and his Secretary of Defense have made clear their position should Communist attacks on cities in South Vietnam continue.

President Nixon said during an hour-long press conference Mar. 4 that "an appropriate response to these attacks will be made if they continue."

And Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird told a planeside press conference in Saigon Mar. 5: "All I wish to say on this matter is this. I do not want to issue warnings or to make any threats. I do want, however, to state unequivocally that if these attacks continue unabated an appropriate response will be made."

President Nixon examined the Communist offensive in South Vietnam and said "I think it is important first to analyze what it is and what its purposes are compared with the offensive last year, and then see what that offensive means in terms of the violation of the understanding last October 31 or prior to October 31 at the time of the bombing halt."

He noted that when the offensive is examined in terms of the frequency of attacks it is about the same as the offensive of last year.

In terms of intensity of attacks, he said, it is less than that of last year. As far as the targets are concerned, it is primarily directed toward military targets, but there also are some very significant civilian targets.

"As far as the purposes are concerned," the President continued, "we can only guess, but three have been suggested, that it might be directed against the government of South Vietnam to break its morale and its back; that it might be directed against public opinion in the United States to put pressure on the Administration to move more in the direction of North Vietnam's position at the Paris peace talks; or that it might be directed toward a military victory of sorts, if a military victory of sorts could be accomplished in Vietnam by the North Vietnamese against our forces there."

President Nixon said the offensive has failed in all three areas. "It has failed to achieve any significant military breakthrough. It has failed to break the back of the government of South Vietnam," he noted.

"Far from that," he continued, ". . . in terms of the pacification program, 700,000 were displaced by the Tet offensive last year, and only 25,000 have been displaced by this one.

"As far as this offensive affecting the United States and its negotiating position in Paris, it could have exactly the opposite effect. I think that therefore we must now analyze the offensive in terms of the understanding of October 31."

The President explained that the October 31 "understanding" was to the effect that continued shelling, or attacks, on the cities, the major cities of South Vietnam, would be inconsistent with talks toward peace which would be productive in Paris.

"Now," the President said, "we are examining this particular offensive, examining it very carefully, to see whether its magnitude is in violation of that understanding. Technically, it could be said that it is in violation. Whether we reach the conclusion that the violation is so significant that it requires action on our part is a decision we will be reaching very soon if those attacks continue at their present magnitude."

President Nixon told newsmen there was another factor that should be mentioned: "I do not want to discount by this analysis the seriousness of these attacks, because the American casualty rate, I note, has doubled during the period of these attacks. Therefore, it is necessary for the American President, in analyzing the attacks, to think not only of the understanding with regard to the attacks on the cities, but also his obligation to defend American fighting men in Vietnam."

The President pointed out that the U.S. has not "moved in a precipitate fashion, but the fact that we have shown patience and forebearance should not be considered as a sign of weakness."

Career Motivation Recommendations Are Made by Navy

Recommendations by a Navy Career Motivation conference designed to motivate Navy men toward a service career have been forwarded to Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Thomas H. Moorer.

The week-long conference held at the Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Md., had a theme of "Career Motivation — Challenge to Leadership." Senior representatives from all major sea and shore commands were participants in the conference and came up with a number of major specific points for Admiral Moorer's consideration and approval. Among them were:

Adm. Duncan

- To improve internal communications and better inform Naval personnel of their career opportunities, rights, benefits and privileges.
- Establish an integrated organization for career motivation and improved career advisory service.
- Establish a meaningful sea pay.
- Improve personnel management.
- Improve administrative practices in family support areas.
- Improve education opportunities and integrate with career patterns.
- Improve and increase housing ashore and ship habitability.
- Improve legal and medical services.
- Improve use of recreational facilities.

The keynoter of the conference, VAdm. Charles K. Duncan, Chief of Naval Personnel, told the conferees, "One leadership concept is valid today and that is the relationship between responsibility, authority and accountability. These key elements of leadership form a trinity, no part of which we can allow to be absent or out of balance."

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